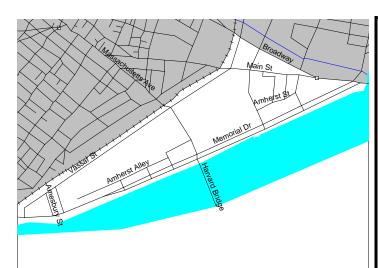
# NEIGHBORHOOD 2

# M.I.T. AREA





**BOUNDARIES:** bounded by Main Street, Broadway, the B&A Railroad, and the Charles River

**POPULATION:** 5,486 residents

794 households

#### **AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME:**

\$26,397

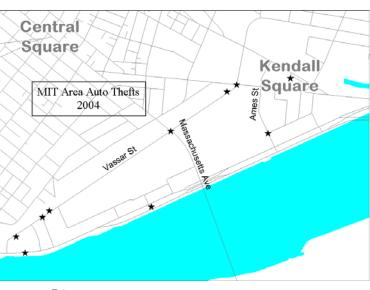
Neighborhood #2 is encompassed within the patrol boundaries of Car 1 and Car 3 (2 officer cars). M.I.T. has its own police force that patrols this area.

COMPARISON OF TARGET CRIME STATISTICS, 2000 - 2004								
CRIME	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004			
Housebreaks	2	0	0	1	2			
Street Robbery	2	4	0	6	2			
Auto Theft	31	17	9	12	15			
Larceny from MVs	27	28	15	28	18			
Malicious Destruction	22	11	10	16	10			
Drug	6	2	4	1	0			

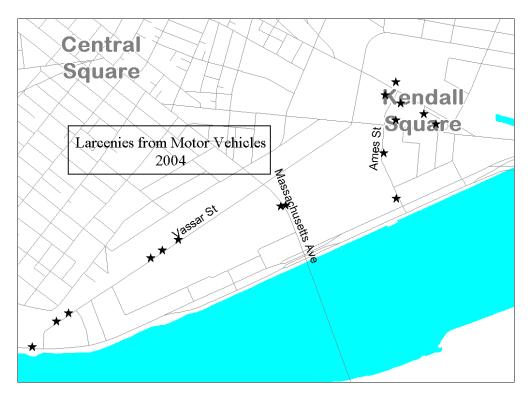
# 2004 YEAR END REVIEW

Please note that the majority of the crime in the MIT area is reported to the MIT police, contributing to the low numbers tallied by the Cambridge Police Department. These low numbers make it difficult to pinpoint information significant to pattern identification.

• There were two housebreaks reported, one resulting in the arrest of an individual with a knife who had broken in to steal a dorm resident's backpack. MIT police knew this individual from prior arrests. The second break took place at the Hyatt Regency Hotel; the door to a guest's room was pried open and his laptop was stolen.



- There were two **street robberies** reported to Cambridge Police. The first took place at an ATM in January on Mass Ave and Vassar Street. After using the ATM at 10:30 p.m., the victim returned to his car in the parking lot when two suspects approached him, brandished a handgun, and took his wallet. The second incident occurred on a Thursday morning in August. The victim was approached by an individual with a knife who demanded his money. This suspect was later arrested by MIT police.
- Of the 15 **auto thefts**, seven of them were stolen from Vassar Street. Memorial Drive and Endicott Street also had multiple thefts. To date, eight of the cars have been recovered. The most commonly stolen vehicle types in this area was Ford vans and trucks. This differs from the city and nation as a whole, which on average reports mostly Honda thefts.



• Over 70% of the **larcenies from motor vehicles** in this area took place on Vassar Street or around Cambridge Center. Most vehicles had their window broken and items stolen. Notable are multiple thefts of subwoofers from trunks. Only one theft from the exterior of a car was reported- the rear spoiler from a Nissan. Items left in view such as purses and CDs were commonly targeted. Breaks into cars in this area most commonly occurred late afternoons to early evenings on weekdays.

ANNUAL AVERAGE FOR M.I.T. AREA TARGET CRIMES								
Crime	1981-1990	Rank '81-'90*	1991-2003	Rank '91-'03*	Rank 2004*			
Housebreaks	19	11	3	10	12			
Street Robbery	11	10	5	10	12			
Auto Theft	102	7	41	7	10			
Larceny from MVs	56	10	41	8	12			
Malicious Destruction	47	10	21	12	13			

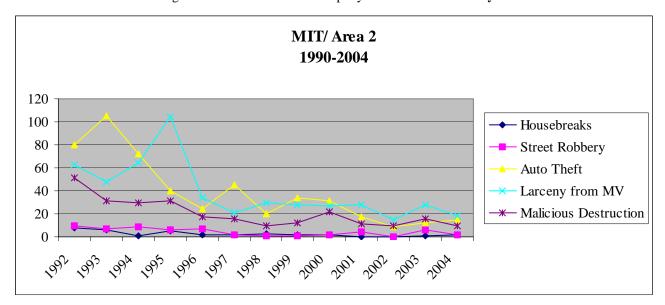
<sup>\*</sup>Ranks are out of 13 neighborhoods, with 1 indicating the highest crime rate and 13 the lowest.

### NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE AND HISTORICAL SYNOPSIS

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology is the dominant venue in the MIT Neighborhood given that M.I.T. property envelops most of the neighborhood. Its large student population—many of whom are foreign—is alluring to local criminals, who often consider students unsuspecting prey.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology has its own police force, which reports its own crime statistics to the Uniform Crime Reporting system. Statistics contained in this profile—and in the rest of the report—do not include crimes on M.I.T. property except for arrests and incidents in which Cambridge Police Officers participated.

- The large number of automobiles parked each day on Vassar Street, Ames Street, Amherst Street, and at the Hyatt Regency Hotel have traditionally accounted for high numbers of **auto theft** and **larcenies from motor vehicles**.
- Street robbery patterns have sometimes emerged at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Vassar Street, and outside the Bank of America ATM on Main Street. These are often predatory, targeting college students that are walking in the areas late at night. Over the course of 20 years, however, M.I.T. has maintained a street robbery level well below the other neighborhoods.
- Bicycles parked at racks on sidewalks all around M.I.T. have been targeted by thieves in large numbers. M.I.T. and Cambridge Police make several arrests per year for **larcenies of bicycles**.



## 2003 Year End Review

There was one **housebreak** in the MIT area reported to Cambridge police in April of 2003; police arrested a man for trespassing in an MIT dormitory at approximately 4:30pm on a Saturday. •There were six **street robberies**; three of them occurred at an ATM on Main and Wadsworth Streets on a Wednesday or Thursday, where the perpetrator approached the victim in the ATM and demanded money. A knife was used, threatened, or implied in two of the ATM incidents and a gun was implied in the third. In November, a suspect was arrested and linked to four ATM robberies in Kendall Square and the robbery of a convenience store in East Cambridge. •There were 12 **auto thefts** reported in 2003. Eight of the reported 12 thefts were from the Vassar Street area, a common hotspot over the years for auto thefts. •There was a rise in **larcenies from motor vehicles**, and as with auto thefts, the majority of those occurred in the area of Vassar Street. Larcenies were spread throughout the year, but were more frequent in June and November. Radios or stereos were commonly targeted, as well as laptops, purses and backpacks that were left in view inside the vehicles. •All of the **malicious destruction** incidents in this neighborhood targeted motor vehicles; most victims had their windows smashed or cars keyed. The incidents were generally spread throughout the year, but four of the incidents on Vassar Street occurred in one night in January. •The one **drug arrest** in this area in 2003 occurred following surveillance by the Cambridge Special Investigations Unit based on a tip regarding drug dealing in the area.